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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Note verbale dated 11 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), has the honour to request, on behalf of one of its members, that the document entitled "Special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands", adopted by the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered at the third CELAC Summit, held in Belén, Costa Rica, on 28 and 29 January 2015, be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 44, concerning the question of the Malvinas Islands (see annex).

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Annex to the note verbale dated 11 February 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Special declaration on the question of the Malvinas Islands

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Costa Rica on the occasion of the third Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held on 28 and 29 January 2015,

1. Reiterate their strongest support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, as well as the abiding interest of the countries of the region in the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and definitive solution to the dispute, pursuant to the relevant pronouncements by the United Nations and the Organization of American States, as expressed by them in the previous declarations of the Rio Group and the Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development, in particular the Declaration of the Latin American and Caribbean Unity Summit, held in Riviera Maya, Mexico, on 23 February 2010, which are part of the historical heritage of CELAC;

2. Recall that 16 December 2015 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of United Nations General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX), which was the first to refer specifically to the question of the Malvinas Islands and which has been reiterated up to the present day by successive resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Special Committee on decolonization. Furthermore, they note with satisfaction the important contribution made by the United Nations Special Committee on decolonization through its consideration of the question over the 50 years since the adoption of resolution 2065 (XX);

3. In this context, the Heads of State and Government of CELAC instruct the President Pro Tempore to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, to renew his efforts to carry out the mission of good offices entrusted to him by the General Assembly through successive resolutions, with a view to achieving the resumption of negotiations aimed at finding, as soon as possible, a peaceful solution to the above-mentioned dispute, and to inform them of the progress made in the fulfilment of that mission;

4. Furthermore, they reiterate the importance of observing United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly;

5. They highlight the continuous constructive attitude and willingness of the Argentine Government to reach, by means of negotiations, a peaceful and definitive solution to this anachronistic colonial situation on the soil of the Americas.